

Message Text

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14-10
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NIC-01 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

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R 130730Z MAR 75
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 148
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 1188

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, SW, YO
SUBJECT: PALME'S VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA

REF: STOCKHOLM 718 (NOTAL)

1. DURING DINNER AT MY RESIDENCE, PRIME MINISTER OLOF PALME MENTIONED HIS FORTHCOMING OFFICIAL VISIT TO BELGRADE. HE TOLD ME THE YUGOSLAVS HAVE BEEN PRESSING FOR EITHER A TITO VISIT TO SWEDEN OR A VISIT BY PALME TO BELGRADE. PALME WILL TAKE WITH HIM AN INVITATION FOR TITO TO VISIT SWEDEN THIS FALL.
2. PALME WILL BE ACCCOMPANIED BY SECRETARY OF STATE ANDERS THUNBORG; MFA EASTERN EUROPEAN DIVISION CHIEF LARS BERGQUIST; AND PALME'S PERSONAL ASSISTANT, PIERRE SCHORI. OFFICIAL DINNER MARCH 16 (SUNDAY) WILL BE FOLLOWED BY MEETINGS WITH TITO, DOLANC AND OTYRS MARCH 17.

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3. PALME SAID THAT THE SWedes ARE SOMEWHAT CONCERNED OVER

SUCCESSION PROSPECTS IN YUGOSLAVIA. HE THINKS KARDELJ IS
TOO SICK TO PLAY A LEADING ROLE DURING THE SUCCESSION
PERIOD.

4. WE HAVE ALSO HEARD THAT:

- THE SWEDISH VISITOK WILL BE LOOKING FOR YUGOSLAV
INSIGHTS INTO THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP SITUATION;
- THE MFA ANALYSIS IS THAT THE SOVIET UNION IS LIKELY
TO BEHAVE DISCREETLY DURING THE SUCCESSION PHASE
IN YUGOSLAVIA, EXERTING QUIET INFLUENCE BUT
NOT SEEKING A DRASTIC CHANGE IN YUGOSLAVIA THAT
WOULD UPSET THE BALANCE OF POWER IN EUROPE;
- THE MFA EXPECTS THE YUGOSLAVS TO DIGRESS AT LENGTH
ON JOINT YUGOSLAV-SWEDISH COOPERATION ON THIRD
MARKET PROJECTS BUT DOUBTS DISCUSSVN WILL LEAD TO
CONCRETE RESULTS.

5. MFA SOURCE ALSO TELLS US YUGOSLAVS SAY TITO HAS GREAT
INTEREST IN PALME AS EMERGING LEADER (REPLACING WILLY
BRANDT) ON FIRMAMENT OF WORLD SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT.
IF YUGOSLAVS ARE INDEED SAYING THIS, THEY HAD CORRECTLY
GAUGED PALME'S SUSCEPTIBILITIES TO FLATTERY ON THIS ACCOUNT.
AT DINNER, PALME WAS CORDIAL, RELAXED AND DEMONSTRATIVELY,
I THINK, STAYED UNTIL NEAR MIDNIGHT. IN HIS CONVERSATION HE
DWELT WITH CONSIDERABLE PRIDE ON HIS PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN
GAINING AND WIELDING POWER ON THE SWEDISH SCENE. IT IS CLEAR
THAT HE LOOKS FOR WIDER HORIZONS.

STRAUSZ-HUPE

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